

Message Text

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EXDIS MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

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EXDIS

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS: SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE AND
USNMR SHAPE. MILITARY ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MILI, AWACS, MPOL, GW, US

SUBJECT: MAJOR GENERAL PUSTAY'S REPORT ON HIS MEETING
HERE, AND OUR SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER AEW
EFFORTS

REFS: (A) BONN 18767; (B) STATE 278478; (C) BONN 19188

1. THERE FOLLOWS BELOW A REPORT PREPARED BY MAJOR
GENERAL PUSTAY, DIRECTOR OF THE AWACS TASK FORCE, PRE-
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PARED UPON COMPLETION OF HIS VISIT HERE THIS WEEK.
THE REPORT UNDERLINES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SUGGESTION
WE MADE IN REFTEL A ABOUT DEALING WITH GENUINE GERMAN
CONCERNS AS REPORTED. GENERAL PUSTAY MADE AN EFFECTIVE
PRESENTATION, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE HE INDICATED THE

POSSIBILITY OF ARRANGING THE FINANCING IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE GERMAN CONTRIBUTION COULD BE MADE PRINCIPALLY TOWARD THE LATTER YEARS OF THE PROGRAM. HE RECEIVED A SYMPATHETIC HEARING AND A GERMAN COMMITMENT--TO THE EXTENT THAT ACTING CHIEF OF STAFF WUST CAN GIVE IT--TO ASSIST WITH SOME FUNDING EVEN FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM.

2. AS WE ALSO INDICATED IN REF A, WE BELIEVE THAT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FRG AT SENIOR LEVELS, DEALING WITH THE POINTS THAT THE GERMANS HAVE RAISED WITH US, WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO PRODUCING THE KIND OF STATEMENT OF SUPPORT--SUBJECT TO BUNDESTAG CONCURRENCE--THAT WE WANT TO OBTAIN FOR THE DECEMBER MINISTERIAL.

3. AT THIS PARTICULAR MOMENT, SOME OF THE NORMAL CHANNELS FOR THESE DISCUSSIONS ARE NOT AVAILABLE. MINISTER LEBER, WHO HAD HIS APPENDIX REMOVED YESTERDAY, WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE NPG MEETING AND SECRETARY RUMSFELD WILL, THEREFORE, NOT BE ABLE TO MEET WITH HIM AS WE HAD HOPED. MOREOVER, THE FRG MINISTRY OF DEFENSE IS NOW VERY WEAK AT THE CRUCIAL LEVEL OF CIVILIAN STATE SECRETARIES. MANN HAS LEFT AND SCHMIDT MAY HAVE TO GO AS A CONCESSION TO THE MILITARY FOR HIS ROLE IN HAVING PERMITTED RUDEL TO ADDRESS THE "IMMELMAN" REUNION (REF C). ALL SENIOR OFFICIALS AND OFFICERS AT THE MOD ARE NOW DEEPLY INVOLVED IN TRYING TO RESOLVE THE RUDEL QUESTION, WHICH HAS DONE MAJOR DAMAGE TO THE MORALE OF THE GERMAN SERVICES.

4. IN THE MEANTIME, WE SUGGEST CONTINUING EFFORT TO MAKE FURTHER PROGRESS ON THE QUESTIONS THAT THE FRG HAS RAISED REGARDING THE GROUND ENVIRONMENT AND THE PARTICIPATION BY OTHER NATO STATES IN THE AEW
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SYSTEM.

5. WITH REGARD TO THE GROUND ENVIRONMENT, ON WHICH WE CLAIM NO EXPERTISE, GENERAL PUSTAY'S CONVERSATIONS POINT TO SOME SPECIFIC GERMAN DOUBTS THAT CAN, PERHAPS, BE RESOLVED OR AT LEAST STUDIED CLOSELY BETWEEN NOW AND DECEMBER. AT THE VERY LEAST, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE THE GERMANS SOME IDEA OF THE OPTIONS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE COSTS, SINCE IT APPEARS THAT THEY MAY WELL BE USING THE AEW DISCUSSION TO PUSH FOR MAJOR CHANGES IN THE GROUND ENVIRONMENT SYSTEM.

6. AS REGARDS PARTICIPATION BY OTHER NATO STATES, WE APPRECIATE THE LIST CONTAINED IN REF B. WE BELIEVE

THE GERMANS WILL RECOGNIZE THE POINT THAT THEIR SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL TO BRING OTHER COUNTRIES ON BOARD. WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION, FROM THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH US, THAT THEY HAVE BEEN MAKING AN EFFORT AND THAT THEY, LIKE OURSELVES, ARE NOT DISCOURAGED BY THE RESULTS. WE WOULD WELCOME AUTHORIZATION TO PRESENT THEM WITH A LIST OF THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE WE BELIEVE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE AND WHERE FURTHER PROGRESS COULD BE ACHIEVED BY SOME EFFORT.

7. ONCE LEBER RECOVERS, AND ASSUMING THAT THE RUDEL AFFAIR HAS NOT SERIOUSLY DAMAGED HIS EFFECTIVENESS, SOME DIRECT APPROACH TO HIM SHOULD BE AN ESSENTIAL AND USEFUL PART OF OUR SCENARIO. DEPENDING ON HIS REACTION, WE MAY ALSO WANT TO WEIGH IN WITH OTHER MINISTRIES AND PERHAPS THE CHANCELLOR, BUT WE WOULD NOT WANT TO DO THIS UNTIL WE THINK LEBER IS FIRMLY ON BOARD. WE BELIEVE SUCH INTERVENTIONS, DEALING WITH THE GERMAN CONCERNS, WILL BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF BRINGING ABOUT THE KIND OF GERMAN COMMITMENT THAT WE SEEK IN DECEMBER.

8. THERE FOLLOWS GENERAL PUSTAY'S REPORT:

BEGIN TEXT: SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS WITH LIEUTENANT GENERAL WUST, ACTING INSPECTOR OF THE FEDERAL ARMED FORCES, FRG

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A. IN A FORTY MINUTE DISCUSSION WITH GENERAL WUST ON NOVEMBER 9, HE REPEATEDLY RAISED TWO QUESTIONS ON THE GROUND INTERFACE FOR NATO AEW: "WHAT IS THE IMPLEMENTING SCHEDULE AND WHAT IS THE TOTAL COST TO THE FRG OF SUCH A GROUND INTERFACE?" IT WAS CLEAR FROM OUR CONVERSATION THAT HE REFERS TO SOMETHING BEYOND, I REPEAT BEYOND, THE PROPOSED "ALL SITES" CONFIGURATION, WHEREIN EACH NATO GROUND ENVIRONMENT SITE HAVING CONTROL CAPABILITY WOULD BE EQUIPPED TO INTERFACE DIRECTLY WITH AEW AIRCRAFT. IN THIS REGARD HE IS OBVIOUSLY LOOKING AT THE MESHING OF ALLIANCE (I.E. AEW) NEEDS AND WHAT APPEARS TO BE SPECIFIC NATIONAL FRG C3 NEEDS. WHEN PRESSED FOR DETAIL, HE STATED THAT A LIST OF QUESTIONS FROM A RECENT FRG STAFF STUDY WOULD BE GIVEN TO US THROUGH THE BONN OFFICE OF MUTUAL DEFENSE AFFAIRS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT OUR ANSWERS WOULD BE USED TO JUSTIFY PROGRAM COSTS TO THE BUNDESTAG DEFENSE COMMITTEES AND THAT HE RAISED QUESTIONS AT THIS TIME "NOT TO DISTURB THE PLAN" BUT BECAUSE NEITHER HIS STAFF NOR THE SHAPE STAFF HAS ADEQUATE COSTING AND SCHEDULE INFORMATION. WE ARE PRESSING FOR EARLY RELEASE OF THE FORMAL QUESTIONS AND WILL STAFF THEM ON A PRIORITY BASIS.

B. GENERAL WUST POINTED OUT THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE FRG POSITION ON NATO AEW AND THAT MINISTER LEBER WILL MAKE THE NECESSARY SUPPORTING STATEMENT IN THE DECEMBER DPC, BUT THERE WOULD BE NO PROCUREMENT DECISION ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE LATE SPRING BECAUSE OF THE REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN BUNDESTAG APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED EXPENDITURES. I SUGGESTED THE BRITISH COULD NOT WAIT MUCH LONGER BECAUSE OF NIMROD, BUT THAT THE PREVIOUS DECEMBER "DROP DEAD" DATE HAD APPARENTLY SHIFTED TO MARCH; HE AGREED. GENERAL WUST THEN RECAPPED THE RECENT VISIT BY MOD MULLEY AND SAID THE FRG WAS AHEAD OF ITS NATO PARTNERS, ESPECIALLY THE U.K., IN SUPPORT OF NATO AEW. HE REPEATED THIS POINT BY IMPLYING THAT THE U.K. WAS ATTEMPTING TO MAKE NATO MILEAGE OUT OF ITS PRUDENTIAL, NATIONAL ATTEMPTS TO REPLACE ITS AGING SHACKLETON AEW FLEET. IN THIS REGARD
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THE FRG WOULD NOT GIVE SECRETARY MULLEY FURTHER ASSURANCES UNTIL ADDITIONAL PROGRAM COST DATA IS AVAILABLE AND THE NEW BUNDESTAG DEFENSE COMMITTEE IS SOUNDED OUT. HE NOTED ALSO THAT THE COST DATA REQUIREMENTS (TO INCLUDE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS) WERE THE OVER-RIDING CONSIDERATION.

C. WHEN I ASKED HIM ABOUT FRG FUNDING SUPPORT IN THE EARLY YEARS OF THE PROGRAM, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THE NEED FOR FRG EXPENDITURES EARLY IN THE ACQUISITION PHASE AND SAID WE COULD EXPECT MONIES IN THE RANGE OF 100 M D-MARKS DURING THE FIRST FEW YEARS OF THE PROGRAM. HOWEVER' SUBSTANTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD NOT COME UNTIL 1980 OR 1981. (NOTE: THIS IS IN CONTRAST TO PREVIOUS REPORTING THAT LEBER CONSIDERS 1982 AS EARLIEST POINT FOR MAJOR FRG INVESTMENT IN NATO AEW.) THIS STATEMENT ON FUNDING APPEARS FAR MORE FLEXIBLE THAN OTHER REPORTS ON GERMAN ATTITUDES OF THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS.

D. AS I REPORTED IN JULY, GENERAL WUST IS PROUD OF HIS RECORD IN GETTING DIFFICULT PROGRAMS THROUGH THE BUNDESTAG; THIS HAS BEEN NO ACCIDENT, BUT A MATTER OF METICULOUS STAFF PREPARATION. I THINK HIS REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION SHOULD BE WEIGHED IN THIS LIGHT. HE ANTICIPATES, FOR INSTANCE, THAT ONE OF THE FIRST QUESTIONS HE WILL FACE IS "WHEN WILL THE GROUND ENVIRONMENT AND AIR COMPONENTS COME TOGETHER?" I THINK THIS ANSWER CAN BE READILY PROVIDED. THE LARGER ISSUE OF COST, ESPECIALLY IF EXPANDED TO INCLUDE JTIDS/MACS AND NADGE MODERNIZATION OUTSIDE THE NARROW CONFINES OF AEW INTERFACE, WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT. MY VIEW, AND THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE HIGH LEVEL GROUP, IS THAT

THE AIRBORNE AEW AND THE DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED GROUND ENVIRONMENT INTERFACE PROGRAM (I.E. THE "ALL SITES" SOLUTION AT APPROXIMATE COST OF \$160 M) MUST BE KEPT SEPARATE FROM OTHER BROADER AND LONGER TERM PROGRAMS. YET, IT IS MY CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT GENERAL WUST IS WORKING THE BUNDESTAG PROBLEM BY TYING NATO AEW BENEFITS TO SPECIFIC GERMAN NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS IN COMMAND CONTROL AND COMMUNICATIONS. HE OBSERVED, FOR INSTANCE, SECRET

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THAT THE TRI-MNC STATEMENT OF REQUIREMENTS IS INADEQUATE TO WITHSTAND PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW, HOWEVER, HE SUPPORTS IT AS A NATO DOCUMENT. I DEDUCE FROM THIS THAT THE FMOD WILL USE OUR ANSWERS TO PRODUCE SOMETHING AKIN TO A ROC WITH PRECISE PROGRAM DETAILS, COSTING IMPACTS, AND SCHEDULES. TO THE DEGREE THAT WE CAN PRODUCE DEFINITIVE ANSWERS IN THE NEAR TERM, THE GERMANS WILL BE FORTHCOMING NOT ONLY IN THE DPC, BUT IN THE PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW PROCESS. IN MY JUDGMENT, IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT IF GENERAL WUST IS SUCCESSFUL IN THIS ENDEAVOR HE WILL BUTTRESS HIS TACTIC OF ELEVATING THE AEW ABOVE THE ARENA OF TRI-SERVICE COMPETITION FOR BUDGET DOLLARS BY HAVING THE BUNDESTAG RECOGNIZE THIS PROGRAM AS BOTH NATO IN CHARACTER AND NATIONAL (CENTRAL STAFF) C3 IN CHARACTER. THIS CONCEIVABLY COULD EXPEDITE BUNDESTAG APPROVAL. THE SPECIFIC NATURE OF THE QUESTIONS WILL PERMIT A FULLER ASSESSMENT UPON MY RETURN TO WASHINGTON. END TEXT STOESSEL UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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